

**Alabama Child Death Review System
State Team Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2009**

State Team Members Present:

Aretha Bracy (Proxy-Representative Mike Millican)
Richard Burleson (Proxy-Dr. Don Williamson)
Cathy Crabtree
Judge Bill English
Sheriff Herbie Johnson
Marian Loftin
Chief Ray Moore
Dr. Cheryl Outland
Dr. Gillis Payne
Shirley Scanlan (Proxy-Comm. Nancy Buckner)
Dianne Sims (Proxy-Senator Linda Coleman)
Dr. Kenneth Snell
Dr. Karl Stegall
Kristi A. Valls
Dr. Dale Wisely

Absent:

Jannah Bailey
Dr. Robert Brissie
Judge Jean Brown
Joy Deupree
Bill Harris
Commissioner John Houston
Col. J. Christopher Murphy
J.R. Sample
Michael Sparks
Sheriff Bobby Timmons
Amy Trammell
April Holcomb Weaver

Guests/Staff Present:

Melanie Bridgeforth
Christy Mehaffey
Alton Stone
Theresa Wilson
Albert Woolbright

Call to Order

On July 23, 2009 at 1:00 PM at the Alabama Industrial Development Training (AIDT) Center in Montgomery, Alabama, the Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) State Team meeting was called to order by Richard Burleson.

Welcome of Members and Guests

Richard Burleson welcomed everyone and introductions were made by those in attendance. He also introduced the most recent state team member, Kristi A. Valls, who represents the Alabama District Attorney's Association.

Old Business

State Team Membership Update

Mr. Burleson reviewed the make-up and the appointments of the state team members.

Approval of Minutes

The members present voted, without objection, to approve the April 2009 meeting minutes as written.

New Data System Update

Mr. Burlison reported that the program has implemented the new online reporting system and has experienced little resistance from the local review teams. He also demonstrated an online snapshot of the new reporting system.

Status of Case Report Update

Mr. Burlison noted the impressive change in the status of cases report. He gave a brief history of the restructured duties of the Director and Assistant Director. Mr. Burlison also reported that since the last state team meeting in April, the local review teams' combined performance rate had improved significantly with a case return rate greater than 95%, the highest return rate in the history of the program.

New Business

Guest Speakers' Presentations

Christy Mehaffey presented the background and mission of the Children First Foundation. The foundation makes appropriations annually to twelve state agencies in support of their prevention efforts. The ongoing focus of the foundation is to protect the funding of the Children First Trust Fund. The foundation also advocates for legislative efforts that support and enhance the lives of children.

Melanie Bridgeforth presented the multi-issue non-partisan statewide activities of VOICES for Alabama's Children. Ms. Bridgeforth gave a summary of their legislative efforts from the past session and an overview of their focus for the upcoming legislative session.

Governor Recommendations

The State Team voted unanimously to adopt the Governor Recommendations as written with the exception of the correction to change the word "cause" to "category" in the first and second paragraphs.

Annual Report

Mr. Burlison reported that the 2006 data collection year has closed and staff met with University of Alabama to begin development of the Annual Report for 2006 data. The goal is to have a "draft" hard copy by the next meeting and distribute the annual report in January.

Future Meeting Dates

The remaining meeting date for this year is Thursday October 22, 2009. The proposed meeting dates for 2010 are: January 21, April 22, July 22 and October 21.

Executive Session (if necessary)

An executive session was not called during this meeting.

Adjourn

There being no further items on the agenda and no further discussion requested, without objection, the meeting was adjourned.